

# TEAM NILSEN

## 29er Skiff Racing / Match Racing

### RESUMES

**Finn-Erik Nilsen** – Helm (6'-0" 148 lbs)

**Country:** USA

**Phone Home:** (707) 864-3295

**Phone Mobile** (707) 688-0194

**E-mail:** 9er.teamnilsen@gmail.com

**Birthday:** November 23, 1990

**Sailing Club or Team:** St. Francis Yacht Club (Junior Member)



**Sponsors:** St. Francis Yacht Club - St. Francis Foundation – US Sailing – CISA – Southport Sailing Foundation

**Campaign Summary:** My name is Finn Nilsen, I started sailing at age 7 and have been sailing competitively for 11 years. The boats that I've sailed are the El Toro (3 years), Optimist (3 years), Knarr (6 years), and currently the 29er since the fall of 2005. Our team name is TEAM NILSEN, as we are a team of brothers sailing together and having a blast. My brother Alek and I have been sailing together on the 29er for the past 3 years now, and our chemistry on and off the water is great. He is not only my brother but my best friend. Our goals are to sail the 29er thru 2010, mastering all aspects of boat handling, strategy, and tactics in all conditions before moving to the 49er. The end game is to be ready for the next trials and the possibility of the 2012 games. Presently our goals for the next year are to achieve top 3 finishes at CISA, Kiel Week, and the 29er US National Championships. To meet our goals we have a sail plan covering training (on and off the water), regattas, and sailing gear and equipment inventory along with ongoing 29er upkeep and maintenance. In 2009 we trained and competed in our first Match Racing. I was the skipper and was head to head with sailors like Russ Silvestri, Mark Ivy, Jenny Tulloch and others in the Area "G" Qualifiers. Currently we are being supported by our Yacht Club, the St. Francis Foundation, and our parents along with others see above. We also have a business cutting lawns (Jack Rabbit Lawn Service), which helps us by the fact we can be flexible with our time.

**Significant Achievements:** I have been told by others that my biggest achievement is sailing with my brother. This may be true, but we have such a great time together that it is hard for me to understand why this is an achievement. My other achievements are receiving sportsmanship awards during my time in the El Toros and Optimists, and receiving most improved 29er team in 2007 from my Yacht Club. I would also have to say that meeting our goals of being in the top five at the CISA Advanced Racing Clinic, the US Youth Championships, and the 29er North Americans at Kingston in 2008 was at the top of the list of achievements. In 2009 Team Nilsen was awarded the 2008 T. David Fenix Award for Junior Yachtsman of the Year by our Yacht Club. This along with placing at the US 29er Nationals and achieving a 40<sup>th</sup> out 186 at the 2009 29er Worlds in Garda Italy made this an exciting and intense year of sailing.

**Skills & Interests:** I have a broad range of skills and interests. I enjoy water sports from wake boarding to water polo and am interested in skate boarding, kite boarding, surfing, skiing, and biking. I also like playing the drums and video production.

### 29er Regatta Results – 2007 thru 2009 (Top 10):

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Result</i> | <i>Name of Event</i>        | <i>Venue</i>             | <i>Other</i> |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 2007        | 13            | U.S. Youth Championships    | New Orleans, LA          | 23 boats     |
| 2007        | 13            | U.S. 29er Nationals         | Santa Cruz, CA           | 23 boats     |
| 2007        | 17            | 29er North Americans        | Kingston Ontario, Canada | 66 boats     |
| 2008        | 5             | CISA Advanced Racing Clinic | Long Beach, CA           | 10 boats     |
| 2008        | 4             | U.S. Youth Championships    | San Francisco, CA        | 9 boats      |
| 2008        | 6             | U.S. 29er Nationals         | Cascade Locks, OR        | 21 boats     |
| 2008        | 4             | 29er North Americans        | Kingston Ontario, Canada | 65 boats     |
| 2009        | 3             | CISA Advanced Racing Clinic | Long Beach, CA           | 11 boats     |
| 2009        | 40            | 29er Worlds                 | Riva del Garda, Italy    | 186 boats    |
| 2009        | 4             | U.S. 29er Nationals         | San Francisco, CA        | 25 boats     |

### **Awards:**

|      |               |                              |                              |
|------|---------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2004 | Optimist      | Sportsmanship Award          | San Francisco Yacht Club, CA |
| 2007 | 29er          | Most Improved Team           | St. Francis Yacht Club, CA   |
| 2008 | T.David Fenix | Junior Yachtsman of the Year | St. Francis Yacht Club, CA   |